



Security Council

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GENERAL

S/23830
22 April 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 21 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
OF BELGIUM, FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to draw to your attention the text, in French and English, of a statement on Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted by the European Community and its member States in Lisbon and Brussels on 16 April 1992.

We should be grateful if you would have this letter and the annex hereto circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Paul NOTERDAEME
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations

(Signed) Jean-Bernard P. H. P. MERIMEE
Permanent Representative of France
to the United Nations

(Signed) David HANNAY
Permanent Representative of the United
Kingdom to the United Nations

Annex

[Original: English/French]

STATEMENT ON BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA

The Community and its member States, recalling their statement of 11 April, strongly condemn the violence that is now spreading in Bosnia and Hercegovina at the hands of various armed elements with the support of regular forces, and in particular of the JNA. They call upon all parties concerned to strictly abide by the cease-fire agreed upon. All sides should refrain from any move such as the sending of military reinforcements into Bosnia and Hercegovina that can only exacerbate the situation. In particular they urge the Belgrade authorities to do all in their power to prevent violent activities by Serbian irregulars.

The Community and its member States, while recalling that they will never accept a de facto situation created by violence, condemn the use of force, intimidation and provocations perpetrated by nationalist extremists as well as any attempts from outside to destabilize Bosnia and Hercegovina. Parties responsible for such actions will be internationally held accountable for their acts.

They support the Bosnian Government in its efforts to bring about a peaceful solution respecting the rights of all ethnic and national groups in that Republic and expect all parties to pursue without delay the negotiations on the future constitutional arrangements under the auspices of the peace conference.

The Community and its member States call on all parties concerned and on all republics - in particular on Serbia and Croatia - to fully support the mission of the personal envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Cyrus Vance, in the area. They demand the reopening of the airport of Sarajevo for humanitarian relief. They expect all sides to allow for a safe and unrestricted access of the ECMM in the dispatch of its duty.

The Community and its member States, while reaffirming their wish for the Security Council of the United Nations to remain actively involved in this question, have brought the situation on Bosnia and Hercegovina before the CSCE in concertation with other members of that Conference.



Security Council

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 21 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
CHAD TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Chad to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to inform him that, following the meeting of the Council of Ministers held on 16 April 1992, the Government of the Republic of Chad decided to take the measures to implement the embargo against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya that are recommended by resolution 748 (1992) adopted on 31 March 1992 by the Security Council.

The Mission would therefore be grateful if the Secretary-General would transmit this letter to the States Members of the United Nations and to the competent United Nations organs and bodies, for information.



General Assembly Security Council

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A/47/171
S/23832
22 April 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Item 69 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 22 April 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Albania to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration of the Government of the Republic of Albania (annex) on the recognition of the independence of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

I would very much appreciate it if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 69 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sokol NECAJ
Chargé d'affaires

* A/47/50.

ANNEX

Statement of the Government of the Republic of Albania
on the recognition of the independence of the Republic
of Bosnia-Herzegovina

The Government of the Republic of Albania, respecting the right of the peoples for self-determination, based on the fundamental principles embodied in the Final Act of Helsinki, in the Charter of Paris, in the other documents of CSCE, as well as in the implementation of its good neighbourliness policy, declares that it recognizes the independence of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The further approach in the establishment of diplomatic relations with this sovereign and independent State will be according to the bilateral relations basis.

The Albanian people and Government, hailing this significant event for the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, at the same time express their conviction that the creation of this new and independent State will contribute in the solution of Yugoslav crisis, it will serve the relaxation of the situation and other confrontations in the former Yugoslavia will not be incited. They are also confident that the new and independent State of Bosnia-Herzegovina will make a contribution to the maintenance of peace and stability in the Balkans.

On this occasion, the Government of the Republic of Albania wishes to remind the whole democratic world, especially Europe and the United States of America, to powerfully contribute in the solution of the just demands of the Albanians living in their own territories in former Yugoslavia, to make them equal among the European Community, thus putting an end forever to the injustices committed at their expense.



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S/23833
23 April 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 APRIL 1992 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 23 April 1992, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Alois Mock, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, requesting an urgent meeting of the Security Council on the deteriorating situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina which is endangering international peace and security.

I would be grateful if you had this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Thomas HAJNOCZI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Letter dated 23 April 1992 from the Federal Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Austria addressed to the President of
the Security Council

The Austrian Government is alarmed by the development of the situation in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, where the aggression against its independence and territorial integrity by the Yugoslav National Army and the paramilitary forces not under the authority of the government of that Republic is endangering international peace and security, thereby violating fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Security Council has repeatedly urged all parties to that conflict to settle their conflicts peacefully and through negotiation and to abide strictly by cease-fire agreements expressing its full support for the peace efforts of the member States of the European Community.

With the attacks of the Yugoslav National Army and the paramilitary forces, the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina has dramatically deteriorated. This aggression endangers the success of the collective peace efforts undertaken within the framework of the Conference on Yugoslavia by the European Community as well as those by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe not only in Bosnia-Herzegovina but also in Croatia.

At the plenary session of the Helsinki Follow-up Meeting on 15 April 1992, the participating States expressed their "special alarm at the intensified violence and fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina". They called upon the neighbouring States of Bosnia-Herzegovina "to refrain from any acts of interference" and demanded "the withdrawal of all military and paramilitary forces" from Bosnia-Herzegovina. Furthermore, "they condemned the violation by Serbian irregular forces and by the Yugoslav National Army of the independence and territorial integrity of and human rights in Bosnia-Herzegovina and urged the Government of Serbia to discontinue its support for such actions".

The fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina is causing a heavy loss of human life and material damage. An extremely preoccupying humanitarian situation has been created, hundreds of thousands of persons have been forced from their homes.

The Security Council should take appropriate steps to bring about an effective cease-fire, support all processes towards a peaceful solution of the conflict with a view to fully restoring the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Bosnia-Herzegovina as well as to facilitate necessary humanitarian relief efforts.

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I have, therefore, the honour to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council on this subject.

Alois MOCK
Federal Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Austria



Security Council

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S/23834
24 April 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Considering the request by Somalia for the Security Council to consider the situation in Somalia (S/23445),

Reaffirming its resolutions 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 and 746 (1992) of 17 March 1992,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Somalia (S/23829 and Add.1 and 2),

Taking note of the signing of the cease-fire agreements in Mogadishu on 3 March 1992, including agreements for the implementation of measures aimed at stabilizing the cease-fire through a United Nations monitoring mission,

Taking note also of the signing of letters of agreement in Mogadishu, Hargeisa and Kismayo on the mechanism for monitoring the cease-fire and arrangements for the equitable and effective distribution of humanitarian assistance in and around Mogadishu,

Deeply disturbed by the magnitude of the human suffering caused by the conflict and concerned that the continuation of the situation in Somalia constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Cognizant of the importance of cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations in the context of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Underlining the importance which it attaches to the international, regional and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, continuing to provide humanitarian and other relief assistance to the people of Somalia under difficult circumstances,

Expressing its appreciation to the regional organizations, including the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, for their cooperation with the United Nations in the effort to resolve the Somali problem,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General of 21 April 1992 (S/23829 and Add.1 and Add.2);

2. Decides to establish under its authority, and in support of the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 7 below, a United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM);

3. Requests the Secretary-General immediately to deploy a unit of 50 United Nations Observers to monitor the cease-fire in Mogadishu in accordance with paragraphs 24 to 26 of the Secretary-General's report (S/23829);

4. Agrees, in principle, also to establish under the overall direction of the Secretary-General's Special Representative a United Nations security force to be deployed as soon as possible to perform the functions described in paragraphs 27-29 of the Secretary-General's report (S/23829);

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue his consultations with the parties in Mogadishu regarding the proposed United Nations security force and, in light of those consultations, to submit his further recommendations to the Security Council for its decision as soon as possible;

6. Welcomes the intention expressed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 64 of his report (S/23829) to appoint a Special Representative for Somalia to provide overall direction of United Nations activities in Somalia and to assist him in his endeavours to reach a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Somalia;

7. Requests the Secretary-General as part of his continuing mission in Somalia to facilitate an immediate and effective cessation of hostilities and the maintenance of a cease-fire throughout the country in order to promote the process of reconciliation and political settlement in Somalia and to provide urgent humanitarian assistance;

8. Welcomes the cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of the Islamic Conference in resolving the problem in Somalia;

9. Calls upon all parties, movements and factions in Somalia immediately to cease hostilities and to maintain a cease-fire throughout the country in order to promote the process of reconciliation and political settlement in Somalia;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue as a matter of priority his consultations with all Somali parties, movements and factions towards the convening of a conference on national reconciliation and unity in Somalia in close cooperation with the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

11. Decides to establish, in accordance with rule 28 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, a Committee of the Security Council consisting of all the members of the Council, to undertake the following tasks and to report on its work to the Council with its observations and recommendations:

(a) to seek from all States information regarding the action taken by them concerning the effective implementation of the embargo imposed by paragraph 5 of resolution 733 (1992);

(b) to consider any information brought to its attention by States concerning violations of the embargo, and in that context to make recommendations to the Council on ways of increasing the effectiveness of the embargo;

(c) to recommend appropriate measures in response to violations of the general and complete embargo on all deliveries of weapons and military equipment to Somalia and provide information on a regular basis to the Secretary-General for general distribution to Member States;

12. Notes with appreciation the ongoing efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to ensure delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia, particularly to Mogadishu;

13. Calls upon the international community to support, with financial and other resources, the implementation of the 90-day Plan of Action for Emergency Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia;

14. Urges all parties concerned in Somalia to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Somalia and reiterates its call for the full respect of the security and safety of the personnel of the humanitarian organizations and the guarantee of their complete freedom of movement in and around Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia;

15. Calls upon all Somali parties, movements and factions to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General in the implementation of this resolution;

16. Decides to remain seized of the matter until a peaceful solution is achieved.



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S/23835
23 April 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 23 APRIL 1992 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government and with reference to the letter dated 20 April 1992 (S/23822) addressed to you by the representative of the Iraqi regime concerning alleged cease-fire violations by the Kuwaiti side, I wish to provide you with the following information:

Iraq claims that at 0700 hours on 20 March 1992 a Kuwaiti cargo aircraft passed through Iraqi airspace. The flight in question had, however, been authorized by the United Nations on the basis of a prior authorization by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Iraqi regime under the regular provisions concerning the return of property. Clearly, in repeatedly making such allegations, Iraq is deliberately engaging in fabrication and diversion in order to distract attention from its many violations of the resolutions of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nabeela A. AL-MULLA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



Security Council

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GENERAL

S/23836
24 April 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL PURSUANT TO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 749 (1992)

INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted to the Security Council pursuant to its resolution 749 (1992), which was adopted unanimously on 7 April 1992, and pursuant to a statement of the President of the Council on 10 April 1992. In paragraph 6 of its resolution 749 (1992) on the full deployment of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), the Security Council appealed "to all parties and others concerned in Bosnia-Herzegovina to cooperate with the efforts of the European Community to bring about a cease-fire and a negotiated political solution". Following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President of the Council made a statement, on behalf of the Council, at its 3068th meeting, on 10 April 1992 (S/23802), as follows:

"The Security Council, alarmed by reports on rapid deterioration of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, reiterates the appeal in Security Council resolution 749 (1992), to all parties and others concerned in Bosnia-Herzegovina to stop the fighting immediately. It invites the Secretary-General to dispatch urgently to the area his Personal Envoy to act in close cooperation with representatives of the European Community whose current efforts are aimed at stopping the fighting and at bringing about a peaceful solution to the crisis, and to report to the Council."

2. On 10 April 1992, I met at Geneva with the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Mr. Haris Silajdzic, who asked for the deployment of United Nations peace-keeping forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina. I once more emphasized the division of labour between the United Nations, whose peace-keeping mandate was limited to the situation in the Republic of Croatia, in accordance with the Security Council resolution, and the peace-making role of the European Community (EC) for Yugoslavia as a whole. Concerning his specific request, I observed that it might be more appropriate for EC to expand its presence and activities in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

3. In conjunction with the above statement of the President of the Security Council, I requested my Personal Envoy for Yugoslavia, the Honourable Cyrus R. Vance, to undertake his seventh mission to the region. I am grateful to Mr. Vance and his colleagues for the promptness with which they undertook this urgent mission.

4. Mr. Vance, accompanied by his Special Adviser, Ambassador Herbert S. Okun, undertook his mission from 14 to 18 April 1992. In the course of his mission, Mr. Vance conferred with four of the six Republic Presidents. In Belgrade, Mr. Vance was briefed by Lieutenant-General Satish Nambiar, the Commander of UNPROFOR. Mr. Vance also met with, among others, Acting Defence Minister and Army Chief of Staff, Colonel-General Blagoje Adzic, and the President of Serbia, Mr. Slobodan Milosevic. In Sarajevo, Mr. Vance met with Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, the President of Bosnia-Herzegovina, with the leaders of the two other communities, as well as with the regional Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) commander, General Kukanjac. In Zagreb, Mr. Vance conferred with President Franjo Tudjman and other senior Croatian officials. In Slovenia, Mr. Vance met with President Milan Kucan.

5. On his way back to New York, Mr. Vance met in Lisbon with Foreign Minister Joao de Deus Pinheiro of Portugal, currently President of the Council of Ministers of the European Community (EC), and Ambassador José Cutileiro, the Plenipotentiary for Bosnia-Herzegovina of the Chairman of the EC Conference on Yugoslavia, Lord Carrington. They discussed the political, military and humanitarian aspects of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Mr. Vance reviewed with the Foreign Minister and Ambassador Cutileiro the situation obtaining on the ground during his mission. Foreign Minister Pinheiro reviewed with Mr. Vance current thinking within EC as regards the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

6. The complete programme of Mr. Vance's mission and the composition of his party are set out in annex I to the present report.

I. THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

7. The situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina was the focus of the discussions held by Mr. Vance during his mission. All his interlocutors in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia agreed with him that a civil war in Bosnia-Herzegovina would be a great tragedy. Such a war could not have any winner. All of them also agreed that there was no alternative to the tripartite talks being held under the chairmanship of the EC representative, Ambassador Cutileiro of Portugal. All of them specifically supported the agreement reached at Sarajevo on 12 April 1992 (see annex II to the present report). On all other relevant issues concerning the present conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina, however, Mr. Vance's interlocutors held widely divergent views.

A. Military/political aspects

8. With respect to the military and political aspects of the current conflict, there was no consensus on the origins of the fighting, on whom the responsibility lay, nor was there agreement concerning the situation on the ground. President Milosevic of Serbia took the position that the principal responsibility for the fighting rested with the President of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and that hostilities had been initiated not by forces

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under his leadership, but rather by units from Croatia. He also asserted that the best solution was cantonization of Bosnia-Herzegovina within its existing borders along ethnic lines, with agreed jurisdictional competences, and a new constitution agreed upon by the three main communities.

9. President Tudjman of Croatia was firm in his position that regular Croatian Army troops were not involved in the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina. At the same time, he acknowledged that Croat irregulars, who had formerly been engaged in the conflict in Croatia, were fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina, particularly in the Croat-majority region of Western Herzegovina. The President of Serbia, for his part, acknowledged the presence of Serb irregulars in the fighting, particularly along the west bank of the Drina River, while maintaining that the Republic of Serbia would not allow itself to be drawn into the conflict.

10. The JNA leadership held firmly to the view that all three communities in Bosnia-Herzegovina had some type of paramilitary forces, and that the communities all contained extremist elements that were difficult to control. On one point JNA was particularly emphatic: if its garrisons and other installations in Bosnia-Herzegovina were blockaded or attacked, as they had been previously in Croatia, JNA troops would react forcefully. In the view of the JNA leadership, a solution to the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina should begin with the recognition of the presence of Croatian forces on the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The JNA leadership further urged an immediate cease-fire accompanied by the withdrawal of all outside forces from Bosnia-Herzegovina. If that occurred, the military leaders indicated that the army would remain in the hot-spots and maintain law and order.

B. Intercommunal aspects

11. President Izetbegovic again requested the immediate deployment of a United Nations peace-keeping force in Bosnia-Herzegovina. In his view, the Serbian leadership in Bosnia-Herzegovina, supported by JNA elements, had sought forcibly to alter the demographic composition of Bosnia-Herzegovina, in order to prejudge the outcome of a future ethnic division of the Republic. The President stated that JNA sided with the Serb territorials under the control of the Serb community leader, Dr. Radovan Karadzic. The President suggested a restructuring of the JNA leadership in Bosnia-Herzegovina so that Muslims and Croats could be included in the army's higher command structure.

12. With respect to a final settlement on the constitutional status of Bosnia-Herzegovina, President Izetbegovic stated that the only solution was for experts from outside to draw a map cantonizing Bosnia-Herzegovina, in conjunction with the internal communities, and for everyone to live accordingly thereafter. He said, however, that the Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina made excessive territorial claims and that was the source of the conflict. As regards the Conference on Yugoslavia, President Izetbegovic said he believed the pace of the negotiations should be accelerated.

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13. Croatian Democratic Community (HDZ) leaders at Sarajevo said that their community in Bosnia-Herzegovina desired to live in an independent Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. They stated that Bosnia-Herzegovina was their homeland, and not the Republic of Croatia. They pointed out that the Republic of Croatia had recognized the independence and territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina. They demanded that the Republic of Serbia do the same. While accusing JNA of siding with Serb territorials, they stressed that JNA was the crucial element in a peaceful solution to the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

14. Serb community leaders denied responsibility for the violence at Sarajevo and in other parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina. They also disclaimed control of the territorials operating in the hills surrounding Sarajevo. They asserted that President Izetbegovic wanted to create a unitary, fundamentalist, Islamic State. They maintained that he still resisted the establishment of geographically defined ethnic communities within Bosnia-Herzegovina. In their view, the "map issue" was the most urgent one. They demanded that work on geographic division begin with Sarajevo, because of the dangerous and violent situation prevailing in the capital. The Serb leaders claimed that the recent establishment of their own "Republic" in Bosnia-Herzegovina did not contradict Ambassador Cutileiro's negotiations.

II. HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

15. The conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina is causing a huge new wave of displaced persons. On the day of Mr. Vance's visit to Sarajevo, the number of displacements rose to approximately 184,000, according to unofficial estimates of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). As of 20/21 April, the total number stood at approximately 230,000. During the week of Mr. Vance's visit to the area, the number of those displaced rose at an average of 30,000 per day. In this connection, it must be noted that this is in addition to about 900,000 displaced persons and refugees from the fighting in Croatia. In sum, the conflicts in the former Yugoslav lands have resulted in well over 1 million displaced persons and refugees.

16. UNHCR has responded to the new crisis by immediately delivering food aid, in addition to its ongoing programme. Meanwhile, the provision of basic human needs is significantly hindered by the continued fighting, the great number of roadblocks, and the hijacking of vehicles. Bilateral donors have been mobilized and have begun to respond to the appeal. Much more needs to be done, however, and done quickly.

17. On 11 April 1992, UNHCR concluded a "Sarajevo Declaration" with the three political parties in Bosnia-Herzegovina. They agreed, *inter alia*, to adhere to the principle that the treatment of displaced persons is to be based on strictly humanitarian, non-political and non-discriminatory criteria (see annex III to the present report). The JNA Commanding Officer in Bosnia-Herzegovina assured Mr. Vance that he would do everything in his power to assist UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations in their endeavours to provide basic human aid to the displaced population.

18. President Kucan expressed his deep concern about the growing humanitarian crisis as a result of the ongoing fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Displaced persons from Bosnia-Herzegovina continued to arrive in increasing numbers in the Republic of Slovenia. Slovenia had appealed to Austria to open its border, and Austria had responded favourably. The refugee crisis, however, could not be resolved by Austria and Slovenia alone. President Kucan characterized it as a Europe-wide problem.

III. UNPROFOR

19. During his mission, Mr. Vance met twice with Lieutenant-General Satish Nambiar, the Commander of UNPROFOR, visited his headquarters and met with his chief military and civilian aides. Mr. Vance reported to me that he was very impressed by UNPROFOR and that General Nambiar has gained the trust and confidence of all sides.

20. I have decided to advance the dispatch of unarmed military observers to Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Concept Paper of UNPROFOR originally envisaged the deployment of these military observers after the demilitarization of the United Nations Protected Areas (UNPAs) (see S/23280, annex III, para. 13). Beginning on 30 April 1992, 41 observers will operate within the opstine (municipalities) of Mostar, Capljina, Stolac and Trebinje.

IV. OBSERVATIONS

21. It is clear from the report that I have received from Mr. Vance that the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina has worsened markedly since his last visit to the area, 3-9 March 1992.

22. The current situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina is characterized by massive mistrust among the communities of the Republic; all the parties tend to blame each other; mutual recriminations abound; the cycle of violence is escalating.

23. It is equally clear that the parties hold conflicting and contradictory views on almost all aspects of the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina. My Personal Envoy came to the firm conclusion from his extensive discussions with all the parties, as well as from his consultations in Lisbon, that no party to the conflict is blameless for the current situation and its escalation. I share Mr. Vance's assessment that all sides have to bear some of the responsibility for the outbreak of the conflict and its continuation.

24. It is essential that a cease-fire on the basis of the agreement of 12 April comes into effect immediately. I share the view of my Personal Envoy that there is no alternative to concluding and implementing the constitutional

arrangements being developed at the tripartite talks under the auspices of Ambassador Cutileiro. All the parties have expressed their readiness to participate further in these talks, and should do so promptly and unconditionally.

25. It is also essential that work at the Conference on Yugoslavia continue to be pressed forward with vigour and determination, together with EC endeavours to bring about a peaceful settlement to the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

26. The deteriorating humanitarian situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina is of great concern to me. The fighting makes it increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to provide for the most basic human needs of the innocent victims of this tragic conflict. This situation also puts the personnel of UNHCR and other international organisations at serious risk. Therefore, I once more appeal to all parties to stop fighting and to start implementing their agreement of 12 April.

27. My Personal Envoy informed President Izetbegovic and other interlocutors that, in the light of all the factors bearing on the current situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the deployment of a peace-keeping force there was not feasible. Given the limitations on human, material and financial resources, and especially in view of the current widespread violence, he could not recommend to me such a course of action. I fully concur with my Personal Envoy on this point. The sad fact is that the present conditions in Bosnia-Herzegovina make it impossible to define a workable concept for a United Nations peace-keeping operation.

Annex I

Mission to Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb, Mokrice and Lisbon

The mission was led by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General, the Honourable Cyrus R. Vance, and comprised the following additional members:

- Ambassador Herbert S. Okun,
Special Adviser to the Personal Envoy
- Horst Heitmann,
Political Affairs Officer,
Department of Political Affairs
- Stanley Ignaciuk,
Operations Officer

Itinerary and schedule of the Vance mission

Tuesday, 14 April 1992

Time

1930 Departure from New York.

Wednesday, 15 April 1992

0800 Arrival at Geneva.

0905 Departure from Geneva.

1035 Arrival at Belgrade.

1200 Press conference.

1230 Working luncheon with General Satish Nambiar, UNPROFOR Commander; Mr. Cedric Thornberry, Chief Civilian Officer; Mr. Keith Walton, Chief Administrative Officer; Ms. Judith Kumin, UNHCR.

1415 Meeting with General Nambiar and Mr. Thornberry.

1700 Meeting with Acting Defence Minister, Colonel-General Blagoje Adzic and Lieutenant-General Andrija Raseta.

1800 Followed by a tête-à-tête meeting of Mr. Vance and General Adzic.

Parallel meeting of Ambassador Okun with General Raseta.

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Time

- 1830 Informal meeting with Foreign Minister Vladislav Jovanovic of Serbia.
- 1845 Meeting with President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Foreign Minister Jovanovic.
- 1945 Meeting with press.
- 2000 Working dinner with President Milosevic and Foreign Minister Jovanovic.

Thursday, 16 April 1992

- 0830 Departure from Belgrade.
- 0905 Arrival at Sarajevo.
- 0930 Meeting with President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.
- 1045 Press conference of Mr. Vance with President Izetbegovic.
- 1100 Meeting with leaders of the Croatian HDZ party in Bosnia-Hercegovina, Messrs. Brkic, Kljuic and Boras.
- Noon Meeting with leaders of the Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) in Bosnia-Hercegovina, Dr. Karadzic and Mr. Koljevic.
- 1300 Meeting with General Milutin Kukanjac and Colonel Branco Cado.
- 1420 Press conference of Mr. Vance with General Kukanjac.
- 1500 Working luncheon with President Izetbegovic.
- 1520 Tête-à-tête of Mr. Vance with President Izetbegovic.
- Parallel meeting of Ambassador Okun with representatives of the Bosnian Chamber of Commerce and with Mr. Colm Doyle, EC representative in Sarajevo.
- 1545 Briefing by Mr. Doyle.
- 1610 Departure from Sarajevo.
- 1640 Arrival at Belgrade.
- 1710 Meeting with Acting Defence Minister General Adzic; General Panic, Deputy Chief of Staff; and General Raseta.
- 1915 Meeting with Ms. Judith Kumin and Mr. Jean Noël Wetterwald of UNHCR.

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Friday, 17 April 1992

0835 Departure from Belgrade.

0920 Arrival at Graz.

1000 Departure from Graz.

1200 Arrival at Zagreb.

1205- Tête-à-tête of Mr. Vance with President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia.
1330 Parallel meeting of Ambassador Okun with Chief of Cabinet
Hrvoje Sarinic and Minister of Defence Gojko Susak.

1330 Press conference of Mr. Vance with President Tudjman.

1340 Working luncheon with President Tudjman, Defence Minister Susak,
Chief of Staff Sarinic, General Tus, Chairman Kacic, Deputy
Prime Minister Granic, and other senior officials.

1500 Meeting with Colonel Aryal and Mr. Sune Sandstrom of UNPROFOR Zagreb
(Logbase Zulu).

1520 Departure from Zagreb.

1540 Arrival at Castle Mokrice.

1545 Meeting with President Milan Kucan of Slovenia, Foreign Minister
Dimitrij Rupel, Under-Secretary Zvone Dragan, and Mr. Ivo Vajgl,
spokesman of the Slovene Foreign Minister.

1710 Press conference of Mr. Vance with President Kucan.

1745 Departure from Mokrice.

1945 Arrival at Graz.

2000 Departure from Graz.

2115 Arrival at Geneva.

Saturday, 18 April 1992

0900 Departure from Geneva.

1000 Arrival at Lisbon.
(GMT)

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Time

1145 Meeting with Ambassador José Cutileiro.
1300 Working luncheon with Foreign Minister Deus Pinheiro and
Ambassador Cutileiro.
1500 Departure from Lisbon.
1720 Arrival in London.
1850 Departure from London.
2100 Arrival in New York.

Annex II

Bosnia-Herzegovina - Cease-fire Agreement, 12 April 1992

The leaders of the three main parties of Bosnia and Herzegovina - aware of the extremely serious situation now prevailing in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Solemnly agree:

- To declare an immediate and total cease-fire on all the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, starting on Sunday, 12 April, at midnight.
- To stop all activities that can provoke fear and instability among the population like the action of snipers and the bombardment of Sarajevo and other towns and villages. All house searches, barricades and general arbitrary actions of all kinds should stop immediately.
- All threatening artillery should be removed under the control of the EC Monitors simultaneously with the suspension of all mobilization. These two actions should start within 24 hours of the cease-fire.
- To disband all irregular armed forces, in accordance with an agreed timetable. This will be conducted under the supervision and control of the EC Monitors.
- To start in the most urgent way work on defining the areas of future constituent units of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- In this context the three main parties reaffirm their opposition to any territorial gain by force and agree on the right of return for the refugees, without adverse consequences in respect of employment or otherwise.

The three parties agree that all parties should have equal access to television.

Sarajevo, 12 April 1992

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Annex III

Sarajevo Declaration on the Humanitarian Treatment
of Displaced Persons

The Party of Democratic Action (SDA), the Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) and the Croatian Democratic Community (HDZ), under the auspices of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR),

Considering the particular problems of displaced persons in Bosnia and Hercegovina,

Acknowledging that they were compelled to leave their homes as a result of the conflict and tensions which affect the neighbouring Republics and some areas of Bosnia and Hercegovina, and which continue to generate new displacement,

Concerned by the tragedy of tens of thousands of people, most of them women, children and the elderly, who all suffer the bitter consequences of the conflict equally, regardless of their ethnic, religious or national origin,

Pledging to promote the respect of internationally recognized human rights, including those applying to displaced persons,

Affirming that voluntary return with full guarantees of security and non-discrimination is the basic right of the displaced and the best means to achieve a lasting solution to their plight,

Acknowledging the deteriorating economy in the Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina, and the urgent need for increased assistance from the international community to alleviate the situation of the displaced and their host families,

Agreed:

To adhere to the principle that the treatment of displaced persons is to be based on strictly humanitarian, non-political and non-discriminatory criteria and that the drama of displacement is not to be misused for political or sectarian ends,

To promote initiatives at the regional, municipal and local levels aimed at preventing further displacement and at establishing adequate guarantees to allow for the return of the displaced in Bosnia and Hercegovina to their places of origin or former residence,

To support the initiative to establish a tripartite commission between the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina and UNHCR to define principles, guarantees and procedures aimed at facilitating the return of displaced persons to the Republic of Croatia,

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To express their gratitude and firm support to UNHCR for the role it is playing in assisting and protecting the displaced and in particular, for the initiatives being undertaken to encourage negotiation and dialogue among all relevant parties,

To call upon all political structures and the supporters of the signatory parties, the military, the republican, municipal and local authorities and the inhabitants of Bosnia and Hercegovina, to cooperate with UNHCR and other international humanitarian organizations and to provide them the protection and support required for the fulfilment of their humanitarian functions,

To draw the attention of the international community to the grave economic situation in Bosnia and Hercegovina, aggravated by the presence of close to 100,000 displaced persons in the Republic and to seek international support and cooperation both on a bilateral and multilateral basis, through UNHCR or other humanitarian agencies,

To promote the strengthening of the local, established relief structures in order to ensure the efficient distribution of assistance according to non-political, non-sectarian criteria,

To meet again at the initiative of any one of the undersigned parties in order to evaluate the implementation of this agreement, and to adopt further resolutions as may be considered appropriate,

To disseminate this Declaration through all channels at the disposal of the undersigned,

(Signed):

Alija IZETBOGOVIC
President
Party of Democratic
Action

(Signed):

Radovan KARADZIC
President
Serbian Democratic
Party

(Signed):

Miljenko BRKIC
President
Croatian Democratic
Community

Under the auspices of:
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

(Signed) Jose Maria MENDILUCE
Special Envoy of the
High Commissioner

11 April 1992



General Assembly Security Council

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GENERAL

A/47/173
S/23837
24 April 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Forty-seventh session

Item 36 of the preliminary list*

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:

PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND
PROGRESS IN FASHIONING A REGION
OF PEACE, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND
DEVELOPMENT

SECURITY COUNCIL

Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 22 April 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Belize to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I am attaching herewith a copy of relevant extracts of a statement delivered by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belize on Friday, 3 April 1992, on the occasion of the establishment of the National Advisory Commission on the negotiations between Belize and Guatemala (see annex).

I should be grateful if you have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 36 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council of the United Nations.

(Signed) Amalia MAI
Chargé d'affaires

* A/47/50.

ANNEX

Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belize,
delivered on 3 April 1992

On 17 January 1992, the House of Representatives passed the Maritime Areas Act, which became law on 24 January 1992 when it was signed by the Governor General, after its passage by the Senate.

The Act makes provision for the territorial sea, internal waters and exclusive economic zone of Belize. In this Act, Belize for the first time exercises its legal right under international law to claim a territorial sea of twelve miles. This is done for most of its coastline, but in the southern area between Ranguana Caye and the mouth of the Sarstoon River the historic three miles of territorial sea is maintained.

The law makes it clear, however, that Belize is not giving up its right to claim that area of sea in the south between the outer limit of the territorial sea as presently declared and the median line between Belize's baseline and those of adjacent States as its territorial sea. For the moment, however, Belize is declaring that area as part of its exclusive economic zone, to the exclusion of any other State. The maritime boundary between Belize and Guatemala and between Belize and Honduras, therefore, remains the aforesaid median line.

The Maritime Areas Act explicitly states that the purpose of maintaining the three mile territorial sea in the aforesaid area is "to provide a framework for the negotiation of a definitive agreement on territorial differences with the Republic of Guatemala". This is in the context of Guatemala's recognition, on 5 September 1991, of the independent State of Belize - an unconditional and irrevocable act by which Guatemala acknowledged Belize's frontiers as defined in our Constitution. By necessary implication, Guatemala also agreed to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Belize in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

The Belize Constitution, however, does not define the limits of Belize's territorial sea; this is left for the legislature to enact. It had not done so yet, however, because of the fact that if Belize were to claim all the territorial seas it has a right to in the south, it would require Guatemala to pass through Belize's territorial seas to get to the high seas, whereas it has been accustomed to doing so without entering Belize's traditional three-mile territorial sea. Belize has long since declared its willingness to negotiate an agreement to accord Guatemala such territorial seas as are necessary to provide her with unimpeded access to the high seas, and it refrained from defining its territorial sea pending an agreement.

After Guatemala took the bold move of recognizing Belize, however, the National Assembly of Belize, as an act of good faith indicating its

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willingness to pursue such negotiations to a successful conclusion, passed the Maritime Areas Act. It is made clear, however, that the three mile limit in the area indicated is a temporary measure that merely restricts the negotiations to that area, and the Act explicitly states that any agreement emerging from the negotiations must first be put to a referendum in Belize. If a majority of electors approve it, that shall form the basis for the final delimitation of the territorial sea in the area indicated. If such an agreement is not approved by a referendum, then "the delimitation of the territorial sea in the said area shall be effected on the basis of international law." In either case, the Act will be amended accordingly.

It is encouraging to put on record the fact that for some time now relations between Belize and Guatemala have been typified by respect and understanding, particularly after diplomatic relations were established between our two countries on 11 September 1991. An incident that occurred in early February demonstrates the quality of this new relationship. After an advertisement appeared in an oil magazine published in Texas, inviting tenders for exploration in certain areas and the accompanying map showed an area which Belize has claimed as its exclusive economic zone under the aforementioned Act, I sought clarification from the Guatemalan Government. Guatemala's Foreign Minister, Gonzalo Menendez Park, wrote me a letter the following day, 13 February 1992, indicating that the Ministry of External Affairs had not been consulted regarding the description of the area, that it was an involuntary error and that this area would not be allotted to any tenderer. He further assured me that the next tender notice due to be published in June would only contain areas already duly delimited so as not to give rise to any misinterpretations.

This response makes it clear to the Government of Belize that the Guatemalan Government understands and accepts the effect of the Maritime Areas Act, i.e. that by it Belize does not abandon its right to claim the affected area as its territorial sea, but merely reserves it for negotiation, and in the meanwhile its status is that it is part of Belize's exclusive economic zone.

With regard to adjacent States, as well as to all States of the world, therefore, the situation of the affected area is that Belize has declared that area as part of Belize's exclusive economic zone.

With this clear understanding it is possible to proceed to negotiations, which will hopefully lead, within a reasonable time, to mutually acceptable agreements that will enable Guatemala to formally drop its claim with regard to Belize and allow our two countries to enjoy the friendly and respectful relations that both our peoples have long desired.



Security Council

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GENERAL

S/23838
24 April 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 24 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
FRANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

The deterioration of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina is a cause of the greatest concern to the French Government. It has been the subject of consultations held this very day, at Trémolat, France, between H.E. Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, H.E. Mr. Roland Dumas, Minister of State and Minister for Foreign Affairs of France, and H.E. Mr. Krzysztof Skubiszewski, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland. At the conclusion of their meeting, the three Ministers decided to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council in order to call upon the Council to assume its responsibilities with respect to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Consequently, on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request you urgently to convene a meeting of the Security Council for the purpose of taking such action as may be conducive to the re-establishment of peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina, including the deployment of a peace-keeping force.

(Signed) Jean-Bernard MERIMEE



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/23839
24 April 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 21 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and wishes to refer to resolution 733 (1992) adopted by the Security Council on 23 January 1992, concerning the situation in Somalia.

In that connection, the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua wishes to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of Nicaragua, in keeping with its policy on disarmament, national reconciliation and the peaceful settlement of disputes, fully supports the provisions of the resolution, and hopes that the hostilities will soon cease and that a process of reconciliation and political normalization will be promoted in Somalia.



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/23840
24 April 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 APRIL 1992 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF AUSTRIA
AND HUNGARY ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to transmit the text of a joint declaration by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Austria, Croatia, Hungary and Slovenia, dated 24 April 1992, concerning the dramatic deterioration of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We would be grateful if you had this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Thomas HAJNOCZI
Chargé d'affaires
Deputy Permanent Representative
of Austria
to the United Nations

(Signed) André ERDŐS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Hungary
to the United Nations

Annex

The dramatic deterioration of the situation in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina leading to the tragic loss of human lives, the destruction of towns and villages and the displacement of hundreds of thousands of persons gives cause for the utmost concern.

In its Declaration of 15 April 1992 the CSCE Participating States condemned the violation by Serbian irregular forces and by the Yugoslav National Army of the independence and territorial integrity of and human rights in Bosnia-Herzegovina and demanded the withdrawal of all military and paramilitary forces currently in Bosnia-Herzegovina to their countries of origin or to their normal peacetime locations.

The existence of a sovereign, internationally recognized State and its legitimate government is at stake.

We therefore appeal to the above-mentioned forces, especially those possessing heavy weapons, to immediately stop the killing and the shelling of defenceless towns and villages.

We demand that all international humanitarian relief actions be facilitated.

In view of the seriousness of the situation and the threat to international peace and security we urge the United Nations Security Council to immediately take appropriate action.,

We call on the three ethnic groups of Bosnia-Herzegovina to resume their negotiations.

(Signed) Dr. Alois MOCK
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Austria

(Signed) Dr. Géza JESZENSKY
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Hungary

(Signed) Dr. Zvonimir SEPAROVIC
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Croatia

(Signed) Dr. Dimitrij RUPEL
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Slovenia



General Assembly Security Council

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GENERAL

A/47/174
S/23841
24 April 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Items 30, 35 and 74 of the
preliminary list*
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF
THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER
ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 24 April 1992 from the Permanent Observer
of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of Palestine, to bring the following to your immediate attention:

For the past four months, Israel, the occupying Power, has escalated and stepped up its killing method of Palestinians living in the occupied Palestinian territory of the West Bank and Gaza. Special Israeli undercover Army units and other security forces have so far killed 30 Palestinians since 9 December 1991, in what amounts to summary execution of wanted youths. The most recent incident took place on 22 April 1992 in the village of Dura near Hebron, when three young Palestinian men were shot at, backs turned, by the Israeli undercover units, to which an Israeli couple were witnesses.

It is worth noting that several human rights groups and media organizations have reported this pattern of killing, among which the daily

* A/47/50.

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English
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Hebrew newspaper Ha'aretz and Al-Haq-Law in the Service of Man published reports on 20 March 1992 and 3 April 1992, consecutively.

This criminal pattern is a clear-cut violation of international law and is a grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

The continuation and escalation of repression and killings of the Palestinian people by the occupying Power, Israel, reflect its lack of commitment and seriousness towards achieving peace in the region, as well as towards the current peace talks.

While we recall all the relevant Security Council resolutions and most recently the note by the President of the Security Council (S/23783) of 4 April 1992, in which the members of the Security Council were alerted about the recent pattern of the killing of Palestinians, again we call upon the Security Council and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure respect of all the relevant Security Council resolutions and hold Israel, the occupying Power, responsible and accountable for its actions and its non-compliance with the will of the international community.

We strongly believe that urgent measures have to be taken to provide protection for Palestinians living under occupation, in accordance with Security Council resolution 681 (1990) and other relevant resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 30, 35 and 74 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/23842
24 April 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, the President of the Council made the following statement, on behalf of the Council, at its 3070th meeting, on 24 April 1992, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled:

"Letter dated 23 April 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23833)

"Letter dated 24 April 1992 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23838)"

"In advance of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 749 (1992) (S/23836) the Security Council has had an exchange of views in the course of which various proposals were made with regard to the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"The Security Council notes with deep concern the rapid and violent deterioration of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which in addition to causing an increasing number of deaths of many innocent victims further risks compromising peace and security in the region.

"It welcomes the recent efforts of the European Community and the Secretary-General aimed at prevailing upon the parties to respect fully the cease-fire signed on 12 April 1992 under the auspices of the European Community. It notes with satisfaction the decision of the Secretary-General to accelerate the deployment in Bosnia-Herzegovina of the 100 military observers from UNPROFOR, 41 to be deployed in the Mostar region immediately. The presence of these military observers, like that of the monitors of the European Community, should help the parties to implement their commitment, undertaken on 23 April 1992, to respect the cease-fire. The Council welcomes the support given by the CSCE to the efforts of the European Community and the United Nations.

"The Council demands that all forms of interference from outside Bosnia-Herzegovina cease immediately. In this respect, it specifically calls upon Bosnia-Herzegovina's neighbours to exercise all their influence to end such interference. The Council condemns publicly and unreservedly the use of force, and calls upon all regular or irregular military forces to act in accordance with these principles. It emphasizes the value of close and continuous coordination between the Secretary-General and the European Community in order to obtain the necessary commitments from all parties and others concerned.

"The Council urges all the parties to respect immediately and fully the cease-fire, and condemns all breaches of the cease-fire from whatever quarter.

"The Council supports the efforts undertaken by the European Community in the framework of the discussions on constitutional arrangements for Bosnia-Herzegovina under the auspices of the Conference on Yugoslavia. It urges the three communities in Bosnia-Herzegovina to participate actively and constructively in these talks and to conclude and implement the constitutional arrangements being developed at the tripartite talks.

"The Council calls upon all parties and others concerned to facilitate humanitarian assistance and cooperate so that deliveries of humanitarian assistance reach their destination.

"The Council has decided to remain actively seized of the matter, and to continue its consideration of the further contribution that the Security Council can make to the restoration of peace and security in Bosnia-Herzegovina."



Security Council

Distr.
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S/23843
25 April 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 24 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF ALGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to convey to you, attached, a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, issued today, relating to Yugoslavia and particularly to the recognition of Croatia, Slovenia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Messaoud AIT CHAALAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

A statement by the spokesman of the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

"During the last few months important changes have taken place in Yugoslavia of which Algeria, like the rest of the international community, must take note.

Accordingly, in the interests of consolidating its ties of friendship and cooperation with the peoples of Yugoslavia, Algeria has today decided to extend official recognition to Croatia, Slovenia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and declares its willingness to establish with each of these States diplomatic relations based on friendship, mutual respect and close cooperation.

In taking this action, Algeria will continue to follow developments in Yugoslavia with keen interest and will cooperate with and support any initiative that may help the peoples of Yugoslavia to settle their problems by peaceful means. Thus, Algeria stands ready to consider recognition for any other entity, State or federation that might be formed on the basis of agreements arrived at in the interest of the peoples of Yugoslavia."



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/23844
24 April 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

FURTHER REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL PURSUANT TO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 749 (1992)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraph 2 of its resolution 749, the Security Council decided "to authorize the earliest possible full deployment of UNPROFOR". The present report is submitted in order to inform the Council of progress made thus far towards the full deployment of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and to describe the Force's experiences in its earliest stages.

II. DEPLOYMENT

2. As of 24 April 1992, UNPROFOR had a strength of 8,332, including 7,975 military personnel. Its headquarters has been established in Sarajevo and is fully operational, with the majority (some 350) of the headquarters military personnel already located there.

3. In Sector East (Eastern Slavonia), the UNPROFOR military component, consisting of battalions from Russia and Belgium (1,293 personnel), had attained full strength on the ground as of 18 April. The Force Commander is examining the possibility of assuming his responsibilities in the United Nations Protected Area (UNPA) in this Sector in the first week of May.

4. In Sector West (Western Slavonia), the Canadian infantry battalion has been deployed in full. However, for budgetary reasons, it has been decided to deploy the personnel and equipment of the other three battalions in this Sector (from Argentina, Nepal and Jordan) primarily by surface means. These battalions will not, therefore, arrive in theatre until mid-May. The present military strength in this Sector is 1,373.

5. In Sector North (the northern part of the Krajina), battalions from Denmark and Poland have been deployed. The arrival of the personnel and equipment of the third battalion from Nigeria is expected by the end of May. A total of 2,046 military personnel are currently deployed in this Sector.

6. In Sector South (the southern part of the Krajina), battalions from France and Czechoslovakia (total 1,505 personnel) have been fully deployed and a third battalion from Kenya is expected in mid-May.

7. The full complement of 102 United Nations Military Observers (UNMOs) is present in the area of operations. The Chief Military Observer is in the process of implementing the plan for an accelerated deployment of some 40 of these observers to the Mostar area of Bosnia-Herzegovina on 30 April. They will conduct several patrols daily within the opstine of Mostar, Caplinja, Stolac and Trebinje in order to help defuse tensions in those areas. They will maintain liaison with all sides, conduct investigations and provide their good offices to resolve difficulties. The remaining UNMOs will assist, as originally planned, in monitoring the planned withdrawal of the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) from the UNPAs in Croatia. It may be necessary to reinforce their numbers if, at that time, the situation in the Mostar area makes it impossible for the 40 UNMOs referred to above to return to the UNPAs to participate in this work.

8. The United Nations Civilian Police (UNCIVPOL) contingent has a total of 290 officers in the mission area. The arrival of the remaining 230 UNCIVPOL officers, which has been delayed for budgetary reasons as well as lack of transport in the area of operations, will occur during the second half of May.

9. The infantry battalions are already engaged in actively patrolling throughout each of the sectors. In this way a United Nations presence is maintained even in those areas which are not yet permanently manned pending the arrival of the remaining battalions. Battalions already assigned to their own areas are establishing liaison with both sides at various levels, arranging crossing points, preparing positions, patrolling and siting checkpoints and observation posts.

10. For a number of practical, operational and security reasons, the Force Commander has recommended, and I have agreed, that the proposed Logistics Base should not be established at Banja Luka. The elements intended to be deployed in Banja Luka will instead be deployed at the two other logistics bases in Belgrade and Zagreb. The other deployment plans proposed in annex III to my predecessor's report of 11 December 1991 (S/23280, annex III) and further described in my reports of 15 February (S/23592) and 2 April (S/23777) remain substantially in force.

III. COOPERATION OF THE PARTIES

11. Progress has been made towards the conclusion of status-of-forces arrangements with the parties. A final text has been agreed with the authorities of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and a tentative agreement on a final text has been arrived at with the Croatia authorities. However, protracted negotiations continue with the Government of Yugoslavia. The primary differences have related to the provision of goods and services to UNPROFOR by the various Yugoslav parties either free of charge or on the most favourable

terms. The Government of Yugoslavia and the JNA have, however, provided some 84 vehicles of various types and have recently made available four helicopters for UNPROFOR's use for casualty evacuation in the early stages of its deployment.

12. During the last few weeks there have been disturbing cases, both in the UNPAs and in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in which combatants on both sides have used United Nations insignia on their vehicles and uniforms. On 10 April a white helicopter with United Nations markings was observed landing at Bilece in the Mostar area (JNA helicopters made available to UNPROFOR for medical evacuation are identified by a red cross and do not display United Nations markings). Protests have been lodged at the appropriate levels. Each side holds the other responsible for incidents involving United Nations insignia, while extending assurances that such activity will not be permitted by it. This abuse of United Nations insignia is irresponsible and dangerous. If it persists, it will call seriously into question the genuineness of the parties' undertakings to cooperate with UNPROFOR.

13. There have been a number of incidents of small arms fire directed at UNPROFOR personnel in the UNPAs. In one recent instance, a drunken Croatian Army soldier fired a machine-gun burst at an UNPROFOR sentry; in another, the perpetrators were identified as drunken JNA soldiers who have been apprehended and disciplined. The persistence of cease-fire violations, even in the areas where UNPROFOR is deployed, remains disquieting. These have hindered UNPROFOR's activities and there has been an unacceptable level of firings close to its personnel. The Force's freedom of movement both by land and by air has also been restricted on several occasions. In Sector North, UNPROFOR patrols have been stopped by local police, who in one instance fired in the air to make an UNPROFOR patrol turn back. In other instances, UNPROFOR patrols have been restricted as to the time they may spend in an area or have been prohibited access to certain locations in an area. These incidents have all been protested.

14. Discussions with both sides on the establishment of an "air corridor" permitting UNPROFOR flights to and from Belgrade, Sarajevo and Zagreb as well as over the UNPAs have, however, made satisfactory progress, with the cooperation of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO). A technical agreement was concluded on 22 April in Budapest confirming the following arrangements: (a) freedom to fly in the Sarajevo-Belgrade-Zagreb triangle; (b) freedom for medical evacuation and aircraft maintenance movement from the UNPAs to their various destinations; and (c) freedom to fly into Zagreb for logistical purposes. Agreement on freedom to fly above the UNPAs has in principle been reached, but further discussions are still required on certain aspects of the overall regime for the "UN Special Use Airspace".

15. As indicated above, UNPROFOR will not be in a position to assume its responsibilities in all the UNPAs for another two to three weeks. During this delicate transitional period it is of the greatest importance that the actions of all parties should conform with the letter and spirit of the approved concept for UNPROFOR. I regret to have to report to the Security Council that this principle is not universally observed.

16. The JNA has begun withdrawing from some of its locations in the UNPAs. It has been observed that before doing so it is transferring arms and ammunition to the local territorial defence forces, which are due to be demobilized as soon as UNPROFOR is fully deployed. UNPROFOR has also observed that the JNA is transferring both vehicles and personnel to the local police or milicija. The authorities in Belgrade have explained that what is happening is that police personnel, who were temporarily attached to the JNA when the fighting began, are now returning to their normal law and order duties. These developments nevertheless cause concern in the context of UNPROFOR's responsibilities related to the existing arrangements for local administration and the maintenance of public order (see S/23592, para. 17).

17. UNPROFOR has also confirmed several reports of the forcible evacuation of minority populations from their homes in the UNPAs, especially in Eastern Slavonia. In some cases, it has received reports of threatened or potential incidents of this kind which it has been able to control by preventive patrolling. In other instances, however, it has proved unable to prevent the displacement of civilians. On 20 April, in Sector East, UNPROFOR witnessed the expulsion of 107 Croats from Vukovar, 100 from Tenja and 21 from Maranci, all of whom were obliged to sign a form declaring their departures to be voluntary. This and similar incidents, which seem to reflect a pattern of systematic harassment of minority populations, have been vigorously protested. UNPROFOR has also requested the authorities in Belgrade to conduct a full investigation. In the meantime, UNPROFOR has stepped up its patrols in Sector East, including at night, in the hope of forestalling further incidents. Any instance of forcible displacement of civilians is viewed by the United Nations with the utmost gravity. The persistence of such incidents is not only a violation of internationally recognized humanitarian principles but also, when they occur in the UNPAs, of the letter and the spirit of the agreed Plan (S/23280, annex III).

IV. THE SITUATION IN SARAJEVO

18. The situation in Sarajevo continues to deteriorate and as Bosnia-Herzegovina slides into anarchy, the problems of operating a headquarters in such an environment increase. Movement in and out of Sarajevo is difficult in the extreme and movement within Sarajevo is dangerous. On 15 April two UNMOs were stopped at a checkpoint manned by irregulars just outside the city and deprived of their vehicle at gunpoint. (The vehicle has since been found by the JNA and returned to UNPROFOR.) Air travel to and from Sarajevo airport has also been frequently interrupted, imposing severe delays upon senior UNPROFOR personnel, who have been obliged to spend a disproportionate amount of time on travel to and from Sarajevo. Most UNPROFOR personnel are living in the basement of the headquarters building, as movement between it and their accommodation is frequently impossible. Food and fuel is running short. The implications of this critical situation for the effectiveness of UNPROFOR are being closely monitored by the Force Commander.

19. To the extent possible, UNPROFOR has used its good offices and its limited headquarters resources to provide humanitarian support to those in need as a result of the fighting in Sarajevo. It has helped to evacuate wounded civilians to medical institutions, and in one instance moved 50 elderly and wounded patients out of a burning hospital. While such activities are clearly necessary in the circumstances, the resources at UNPROFOR's disposal do not permit it to extend protection to all humanitarian operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

V. OBSERVATIONS

20. UNPROFOR will be ready to assume in full its responsibilities in the UNPAs by the middle of May as indicated in annex I of my report of 2 April 1992 (S/23777). This is a later date than I would have wished. The delay has primarily been due to the time it takes to transfer infantry battalions, and especially their equipment, from distant countries to the mission area at costs acceptable to the Member States. The fighting in Sarajevo and elsewhere in Bosnia-Herzegovina has also been a complicating factor. Nevertheless, it has so far been possible to maintain the schedule indicated in my last report to the Security Council.

21. Some of the difficulties which UNPROFOR has encountered are of a kind which frequently occur when a new peace-keeping operation is established. But others do raise concern about the commitment of the parties to the basic principles of the UNPROFOR concept, namely the demilitarization of the UNPAs, maintenance of the existing arrangements for local administration and public order and the voluntary return to their homes of persons displaced by the recent fighting.

22. In discussions with UNPROFOR, both sides have also raised issues which go beyond the existing provisions of the United Nations peace-keeping Plan. The authorities in both Belgrade and Zagreb have drawn UNPROFOR's attention to the problem of certain areas in Croatia which are at present controlled by the JNA but are outside the agreed boundaries of the UNPAs. The federal authorities have proposed that these areas, inhabited primarily by Serbs, be included within the UNPAs, while the Croatian side has sought UNPROFOR's assistance with regard to the presence of Serb irregular forces in these areas, without including them in the UNPAs. Consultations continue with both sides on these questions, in view of their implications for UNPROFOR's viability. Further consultations will also be required in regard to a request received from the Croatian authorities on 22 April for UNPROFOR to restore rail, road, river and air traffic and communications across the Republic of Croatia (and therefore through the UNPAs), another subject not covered by the agreed Plan.

23. The first few weeks of the deployment of UNPROFOR have thus made clear the complexity of the challenge which confronts the Force and the United Nations as a whole. The Force Commander, Lieutenant-General Satish Nambiar, his staff and units in the field have conducted themselves with courage, competence and an exemplary sense of responsibility. I should like to pay tribute to their performance and dedication in this difficult environment.



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LETTER DATED 26 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF HUNGARY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 25 April 1992, addressed to you by H.E. Mr. Géza Jeszenszky, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Hungary, on the dramatic developments in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

I would be grateful if you had this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) André ERDŐS
Ambassador

S/23845

English

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Annex

Letter dated 25 April 1992 from the Minister for Foreign
Affairs of Hungary addressed to the President of the
Security Council

The continuous deterioration of the situation in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, along with the growing tension in the non-predominantly Serbian areas of the Republic of Serbia, gives cause for the utmost concern for the Government of the Republic of Hungary.

The aggression against the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the violations of fundamental human rights, including the rights of ethnic and national minorities, in the areas controlled by the "Yugoslav" Army and Serbian irregular forces, constitute a serious threat to peace and security in the whole Central and South-eastern European region.

In the view of the Government of the Republic of Hungary, the United Nations Security Council cannot remain idle in the light of the dramatic developments unfolding in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. It should take appropriate concrete actions to stop the tragic loss of human lives, the destruction of the country and the suffering of hundreds of thousands of displaced persons and refugees.

I therefore urge the Security Council to consider any action, including the early deployment of peace-keeping forces, that might lead to the restoration of peace and stability in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The outcome of the present crisis will serve either as a positive or a negative example for conflict resolution throughout all the formerly Communist countries.

(Signed) Géza JESZENSZKY
